

Vision Plan

NOTE: These standards are provided to assist the insurer in filing forms and rates. They are not intended to be all-inclusive, and are a work in progress. References beginning with "31A" refer to the insurance code as part of Utah Code Annotated (U.C.A.) and those beginning with "R590" refer to department rules as part of the Utah Administrative Code (U.A.C.). The comments are a brief synopsis of the referenced material and do not contain all requirements or exceptions. All references should be reviewed for compliance. As required by U.C.A. § 31A-21-201(2), the insurer is responsible for assuring that forms and rates submitted comply with Utah Insurance Code and Rules.

General Requirements		
Application	31A-21-201(3)	Questions used to elicit health condition information may not be vague and must reference a reasonable time frame in relation to the health condition.
Arbitration	R590-122 Bulletin 96-9	An arbitration provision must be properly disclosed in the policy, certificate, application and enrollment forms. It may not deprive Utah courts of jurisdiction over an action against an insurer, except as provided in permissible arbitration provisions.
Certificate Disclosure	31A-21-311	The certificate shall contain a summary of the essential features of the insurance coverage, including any rights of conversion.
Claim Settlement	31A-26-303 R590-192	Provides for fair and rapid settlement of claims and protection of claimants from unfair claims settlement practices.
Company Name	31A-21-201 & 301(1)	The exact name of the insurer and its state of domicile must appear conspicuously in the policy.
Discretionary Authority	31A-21-201	Discretionary clauses are inequitable and misleading, violate statutory law, otherwise contrary to law, and will be prohibited from use under 31A-21-201(3)(a). Under ERISA, discretionary clauses are not allowable in an insured contract.
Definitions	31A-1-301 R590-126	Definitions used in Utah Code and Rules. All Accident and Health forms must comply with these definitions.
Endorsement or Rider	31A-21-106(2) R590-126-6.C	A contract may not be modified unless it is in writing and agreed upon. Riders or endorsements require a signed acceptance.
Examination Period	31A-22-605(10) & 606	A required time period that an insured has for policy examination.
Filing of Forms	31A-21-201 Bulletin 99-2	Forms are accepted on a file and use basis. It's the insurers responsibility that the filing is in compliance with Utah Code and Rules.
Grace Period	31A-22-607	Policies shall provide a grace period, during which the policy must continue in force.
Incontestability	31A-22-609	Only a fraudulent misstatement regarding insurability is a basis for avoidance after coverage has been in effect for two years.
Incorporation by Reference	31A-21-106 Bulletin 96-9	Except as provided in 31A-21-106(1)(b), no policy may contain any agreement or incorporate any provision not fully set forth in the policy, application, or attached documents.
Lifetime Benefit Maximums	31A-21-201	Lifetime benefit maximums may only be applied to the specific policy. A company may not impose reduce a lifetime maximum for benefits provided under any policy issued by the insurer and its affiliates
Limitation of Actions	31A-21-313 & 314	Such provisions cannot restrict the right of action against an insurer to no less than 60 days and no more than three years from the date the cause of action accrues. In addition, they may not deny Utah court jurisdictions.
Nondiscrimination Among Health Care Professionals	31A-22-618	No insurer may unfairly discriminate against any licensed class of health care providers.
Notice of Non-renewal or Premium Change	R590-126-4.C.f	A notice of non-renewal or change in premium shall be given no fewer than 30 days before the renewal date.
Notice of termination	31A-22-716	Every policy shall include a provision that obligates the policyholder to give 30 days prior written notice of termination and to notify of right to continue coverage upon termination.
Physical Exam	31A-21-201	If an insurer requires a physical exam, the insurer must pay for such exam.
Post Hospital Admission	R590-126-4.G	Policies providing convalescent or extended care benefits following hospitalization may not condition such benefits upon admission to the convalescent or extended care facility with a period of fewer than 14 days after discharge from the hospital.
Proof of Loss and Notice	31A-21-312 Bulletin 87-6	Proof of loss provision must allow the insured or claimant to file the notice and /or proof of loss as soon as reasonably possible. Failure to give any notice or file any proof of loss required by the policy within the time specified in the policy does not invalidate a

		claim made by the insured, if the insured shows that it was not reasonably possible to file the notice or proof of loss within the specified time and that notice was given or proof of loss was filed as soon as reasonably possible. Failure to give notice or file proof of loss does not bar recovery under the policy if the insurer fails to show it was prejudiced by the failure.
Sample Data	R590-86 Bulletin 99-2	Each form must be completed with data that is representative of the market intended to accurately reflect its purpose and use.
Terrorism, Nuclear Release & War	31A-21-201	Acts of terrorism or nuclear release or other terms of similar import may not be excluded. War; acts of war declared or undeclared; participation in a felony, riot or insurrection; or similar acts may only be excluded if the insured is an active participant..
Variability	Bulletin 99-2	All variable information must be bracketed with an explanation of the variables. Changes must be refilled prior to use.
Dependent Coverage		
Administrative or Court Ordered Coverage	31A-22-610.5	When an administrative or court order exists to allow a child enrollment privileges, coverage must be provided without regard to the enrollment season, dependency, residence or service area. Application must be accepted from the insured, the other parent, state agency, or child support enforcement program.
Coverage from the Moment of Birth or Adoption	31A-22-610	Coverage shall be provided; for 30 days to a newborn child from the moment of birth, and to an adopted child beginning from the moment of birth if placement for adoption occurs within 30 days of the child's birth, or beginning from the date of placement if placement for adoption occurs 30 days or more after the child's birth. If payment of a premium is required to have coverage extend beyond 30 days, the policy may require notification of the birth or placement and that the premium be paid within 30 days after the date of birth or placement.
Definition	31A-22-610.5	All dependents must be covered up to age 26. The code does not provide a definition of dependent. When an insurer is creating such a definition, they must treat all dependents equally. The dependent tests for a 2 year old must be the same test for a dependent that is 25 years old. Dependent coverage may not be linked with student status.
Policy Extension for Handicapped Children	31A-22-611	Coverage of a dependent shall not terminate upon reaching a limiting age specified in the policy if the child is and continues to be both; incapable of self-sustaining employment because of mental retardation or physical disability, and chiefly dependent upon the person insured under the policy for support and maintenance.
Residence	31A-22-718	Eligibility may not be denied because the child does not reside with the insured or solely because the child is solely dependent on a former spouse of the insured rather than on the insured. A child who does not reside with the insured may be excluded on the same basis as children who do reside with the insured.
Specific Requirements		
Permitted Provision	31A-22-613	An insurer may only represent that a policy offers a vision benefit if the policy charges a premium for the benefit; and provides reimbursement for materials or services provided under the policy; and covers laser vision correction, whether photorefractive keratectomy, laser assisted in-situ keratomelusus, or related procedure, if the policy charges a premium for the benefit; and the procedure is at least a partially covered benefit.
Rating Requirements		